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Security Council

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Letter dated 29 December 2016 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to Security Council resolution 1958 (2010), in which the Council requested the Secretary-General to take all necessary actions to ensure the effective implementation of the resolution and to enter into all necessary implementing arrangements or agreements as soon as possible with the Government of Iraq.

I indicated in my fifth report pursuant to paragraph 8 of the resolution (S/2016/497), that substantial progress has been made on outstanding issues, and I am pleased that the United Nations and the Government of Iraq have reached certain understandings on the indemnification arrangements to be concluded in accordance with paragraph 7 of the resolution.

I welcome the continued and constructive interaction between the Government of Iraq and the Secretariat on this matter, which resulted in the substantial progress made in 2016. However, I note that certain steps for the full implementation of the resolution have yet to be taken.

Accordingly, I should be grateful if the Security Council would authorize the United Nations to retain the funds held in escrow, pursuant to paragraphs 4 and 5 of the resolution, for an additional period of six months, as it is my understanding that additional time is required to undertake the steps necessary to fully implement the resolution. In this respect, and in the event that the resolution is implemented prior to the expiration of the additional period of six months, I intend to return the funds held in escrow as soon as possible once the steps for the full implementation of the resolution have been taken.

I will inform the Security Council of further progress in connection with the implementation of the resolution.

I should be grateful if you would bring the present letter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **BAN** Ki-moon

16-23141 (E) 291216

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